

Principles of Ministry

1 Cor 16:5-12

16:1-4 Our responsibility in area of stewardship is a manifestation of our belief in the resurrection ...

I. Knew where he was headed. V.5

Systematic and planned trip.

Wise use of time Ephesians 5:15 - 17

II. Flexible. Willing to change. V.6

Application: Gods' will may not always be fulfilled within the realm of our time table. We must be willing to adapt our schedule to His.

Mac: *Our plans should always be subject to the Lord's revision. The future does not always come together as we think it will.*

James 4:15

III. Learned to take care of the depth

I want to spend some quantity time with you.,

If God allows it to happen.

Never undertake the job of a ministry unless made commitment to be thorough.

Mac: *Good purposes, intentions, and plans are worthless if they are not faithfully executed.*

Life of Paul

1. Faithful preaching to Gentiles (Acts 14:27)
2. God opened door to preach in Troas (2 Cor. 2:12)
3. Door of ministry flung wide open
4. Had every right to ask believers in Colossae to pray that God open more doors. Col 4:3.

IV. Realistic view of ministry.

Great door and effectual: awesome and productive.

Many adversaries: opposition...enemies

2 Timothy 3:12 - 14

Hymenaus and Alexander...Gnosticism...worship of Diana, silver smiths who made money on idols.

If make impact on a city ...will make enemies.

If we don't want enemies:

Say nothing
Do nothing
Be nothing

Matt Hen: *True courage is whetted by opposition..they were bent to ruin him, and prevent the effect of his ministry at Ephesus; and should he at this time desert his station, and disgrace his character ad doctrine? No, the opposition of adversaries only animated his zeal.*

5. Saw importance of having a team spirit. Vv 10-11

Make Timothy feel at home. Treat him with all the dignity and respect which you would have for me.

11. ...conduct him forth in peace, Cordially send him back to his home happy. Paul concerned that co-workers and churches always have strong sense of unity and fellowship.

6. Showed deference

Polite respect, putting another person's interests first; yielding to another's opinion, judgment, wishes.

Respected Apollos' decision not to come at this time.

SO WHAT?

- I. Do I know where I am headed?
- II. Am I flexible?
- III. Have I learned to take care of depth of my life?
- IV. Do I have a realistic view of ministry?
- V. Do I see importance of having a team spirit?
- VI. Have I learned to show deference?